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Message Text

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72
ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /031 W
---------- 107106
R 281615Z NOV 73
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8108

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 13848
EXDIS
FOR SECRETARY DONALDSON FROM MOYNIHAN

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS, IN
SUBJECT: MAP TRAINING FUNDS

REF: (A) DRI 344 OF 140600Z AUG 73; (B) DRI 487 OF 261425Z NOV 73 (C) NEW DELHI 10862

1. AMONG THE FIRST SIGNS THAT THE IMPROVING CLIMATE IN INDO-US RELATIONS IS HAVING SOME TANGIBLE IMPACT WITHIN THE INDIAN BUREAUCRACY HAVE BEEN THE MORE RELAXED ATTITUDES OF INDIAN DEFENSE OFFICIALS IN DEALING WITH OUR DEFENSE REPRESENTATIVES HERE. THE INDIANS SEEM TO BE PLEASED THAT THEY CAN ONCE AGAIN SMILE AT AN AMERICAN COLONEL ACW ANTICIPATE RENEWING THEIR PARTICIPATION IN US MILITARY TRAINING PROGRAMS. WE'RE NOT IN THE MILITARY SALES BUSINESS HERE EXCEPT IN A VERY SMALL WAY, BUT THAT MEANS ALMOST THE ONLY WAY OPEN TO US IN MAINTAINING SOME DIALOGUE WITH THE INDIAN MILITARY IS THE TRAINING PRGVRAM. I WANT TO KEEP THIS CHANNEL OPEN. IT COULD BE IMPORTANT TO US SOMETIME AND WE'D REGRET LIKE HELL HAVING MISSED THE OPPORTUNITY.

2. I AM NOW TOLD BY THE HEAD OF OUR DEFENSE MISSION HERE, COL. JORDAN, THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE HAS DENIED HIS REQUEST, SUBMITTED THOROUGH CINCPAC, AND WITH CINCPAC'S ENDORSEMENT, TO INCREASE HIS FY-75 TRAINING BUDGET CEILING FROM $133,000 TO $250,000. THIS WOULD HAVE BEEN CONFIDENTIAL

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A PLAUSIBLE DEFENSE DEPARTMENT POSITION LAST YEAR. IN FACT, THE INDIANS WERE ACCEPTING NOTHING FROM US THEN BUT NOW THE AID IS CLEARING, THE INDIANS ARE INTERESTED, AND I WANT TO KEEP THE LIMITED PROGRAM BEING PLANNED IN MOTION.

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3. WASHINGTON QUITE RIGHTLY PLACES SOME VALUE ON DEVELOPING
RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE MILITARY OF FOREIGN STATES. INDIA HAS
THE FOURTH LARGEST ARMY IN THE WORLD. OUR GENERAL INTERESTS
HERE ARE NOT GREAT, BUTI WOULD HAVE THOUGHT THEY WERE WORTH
AN INVESTMENT OF AN ADDITIONAL $117,000. THAT'S JUST ABOUT
ENOUGH TO BUY A T-28 TRAINER. SURELY OUR INTERESTS IN MAIN-
TAINING AN AVENUE OF COMMUNICATION WITH THE INDIAN
ARMY ARE WORTH THAT MUCH.

4. I WANTED TO CALL YOUR ATTENTION TO THIS PROBLEM
AND ASK YOUR SUPPORT IN URGING THE DEFENSE PERARTMENT TO
STOP PLAYING GAMES AND PUT BACK THE NICKLE-AND-DIME INVESTMENT
IN THE TRAINING PROGRAM FOR INDIA WE ORIGINALLY REQUESTED.
THANKS.
MOYNIHAN

NOTE BY OC/T: EXDIS ADDED PER MR. SANOS, S/S-O.

CONFIDENTIAL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 11 MAY 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MAPS, FOREIGN RELATIONS, MILITARY PERSONNEL, PERSONNEL TRAINING, MILITARY SALES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 NOV 1973
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973NEWDE13848
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: P750023-0418
From: NEW DELHI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731166/abqcegek.tel
Line Count: 75
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: (A) DRI 344 OF 140600Z AUG 73; (B) DRI 487 OF 261425Z NOV 73 (C) NEW DELHI 10862
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 DEC 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19-Dec-2001 by shawdg>; APPROVED <11-Jan-2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MAP TRAINING FUNDS
TAGS: EFIN, MARR, IN, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

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